



PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of

Toru AOKI et al. Group Art Unit: 2674

Application No.: 10/050,831 Examiner: J. Nguyen

Filed: January 18, 2002 Docket No.: 111469

For: IMAGE PROCESSING CIRCUIT, IMAGE PROCESSING METHOD, ELECTRO-

OPTICAL DEVICE, AND ELECTRONIC APPARATUS

RESPONSE TO ELECTION OF SPECIES REQUIREMENT

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In reply to the May 17, 2005 Election of Species Requirement, Applicants provisionally elect Species I, Figures 1, with traverse. At least claims 1-5, 16 and 19-24 read on Species I.

It is respectfully submitted that the subject matter of all species is sufficiently related that a thorough search for the subject matter of any one species would encompass a search for the subject matter of the remaining species. Thus, it is respectfully submitted that the search and examination of the entire application could be made without serious burden. See MPEP §803 in which it is stated that "if the search and examination of an entire application can be made without serious burden, the examiner must examine it on the merits, even though it includes claims to independent or distinct inventions" (emphasis added). It is respectfully submitted that this policy should apply in the present application in order to avoid

unnecessary delay and expense to Applicants and duplicative examination by the Patent Office.

Thus, withdrawal of the Election of Species Requirement is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

James A. Oliff

Registration No. 27,075

Gang Luo

Registration No. 50,559

JAO:GXL/sqb

Date: June 17, 2005

OLIFF & BERRIDGE, PLC P.O. Box 19928 Alexandria, Virginia 22320 Telephone: (703) 836-6400 DEPOSIT ACCOUNT USE
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